

L. A. Building Strip School

Framework is nearly completed on the 14-room elementary school building being constructed at 215th street and Halldale avenue by the Los Angeles City School District. The building will serve elementary pupils from the Shoe-string strip area who formerly attended Torrance schools. It will be ready for occupancy in the spring, it was reported.

NOISY BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES FOR THIS PAIR

Two new residents of Torrance are assured of a noisy celebration when their birthdays roll around each year. They are Linda and Lynn Doyle, twin girls, who were born at 9 p.m. on New Year's eve in the Torrance Memorial Hospital. They are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Doyle of 23123 Doris Way, Seaside Rancho. Linda arrived weighing five pounds eight ounces and Lynn weighed in at five pounds ten ounces.

G. W. STEVENS TAKES NEW CITY OFFICE

(Continued from 1-A)
dinating to bring about efficiency in city affairs. Stevens has spent many years as chief administrator-engineer for the City of Culver City, his tenure there being broken by service in the Army for four years of World War II. He was a lieutenant colonel, battalion commander, in France and Germany. Prior to going to Culver City he had been city engineer at Santa Barbara.

CLINKENBEARD GIVEN POST AS PRINCIPAL OF TORRANCE ELEMENTARY



WILLIAM CLINKENBEARD



EARL W. ECKERT

Torrance City Schools resumed their first semester after the Christmas-New Year's day holidays Monday. The day was not without incident, however, for Superintendent of Schools J. Henrich Hull found himself without two principals and with several teachers on the sick list. Albert N. Posner, principal of Fern Avenue School, had gone to Phoenix to spend the holidays with his family, and sickness reportedly contributed to his dual job as principal of both Fern Avenue and Torrance Elementary schools kept him there. He is expected back this week. Chester E. Shamel, of Menlo Park, elected Dec. 30 by the Board of Education to succeed Albert Beardsley as principal of Torrance Elementary school, notified Hull that he could not accept the job because of obligations in the east connected with his studies and his family had developed. Hull placed William Clinkenbeard, principal of the 7th and 8th grades, in the job of administering Torrance Elementary School on Monday, and the appointment was made permanent on Tuesday night by the Board of Education.

Columbia Deal To Buy Alcoa Plant Okayed

(Continued from 1-A)
pany recently announced it would build in the Los Angeles area. The new mill will further process hot rolled steel coils produced at other existing plants into the sheet steel so greatly needed in the western states.

"Although considerable conversion work will be required, the acquisition should assist in placing the new sheet mill in operation at an earlier date than otherwise possible.

"The Government is not asked to furnish any financial assistance in connection with the acquisition. The offer provides for Columbia to take possession on Feb. 1, 1948."

The Torrance Alcoa plant being purchased by Columbia, in addition to being responsible for an early wartime "surplus" of aluminum due to its tremendous production of the light metal so vital to the war effort and in spite of the fact that it was operated at a small percentage of its capacity, was the unsuspected "depository" of some \$20,000,000 worth of silver bullion consigned by Fort Knox, Ky., to the plant as electrical "bus bars." The tremendous wealth of silver since has been returned to the Fort Knox vault.

The transaction for the Alcoa plant between the government and the Columbia Steel Co. was being checked this week by the Justice Department, in accordance with governmental regulations, but it had been processed in the Southern California offices of the War Assets Administration in Los Angeles by Robert O. Alford, deputy director, Ralph Dunaway, chief of the real property division, and Earl Overholtz.

The Alcoa plant first was advertised for sale on Feb. 19, 1946, after it had been closed down due to the fact that electric power offered by Los Angeles was too expensive to continue operation.

No acceptable bids were received, it was said, and the offer of the sale was withdrawn and on May 15, 1947, it was decided to sell the plant in parcels. However, government officials declared, negotiations were continued on the sale of the usable portions of the plant as a unit, and the Columbia deal resulted.

Its operation will mean a great deal to Torrance, according to officials, since most of the employees will be seeking homes in this area and depending upon the expanding commercial area for shopping.

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1947: A Year Of Results

(AN EDITORIAL)
(Continued from 1-A)

Torrance will enter the year 1949, we predict, with a population of more than 20,000 persons. More than 1,000 new jobs will open up in Torrance during this year, largely due to three big industrial plants.

For the year 1948, may the following, among other things, be accomplished.

1. Establishment by Charter amendment of the City Manager form of government.
 2. Creation of a sound and thorough supervised recreation program participated in on a joint basis by the City School District and the City Recreation Department, keeping school grounds open after school and on Saturdays, and making what athletic and cultural facilities as exist in Torrance available to general use.
 3. Solution of the telephone problem which can be accomplished now that materials are available; institution of the dial system; extension of facilities for better service; unification of number systems and service so that all of Torrance may be reached through one exchange.
 4. New schools to house the children of the increased population.
 5. Unification of the school system under one Torrance Board of Education.
 6. Further expansion of the municipal transportation system to serve all sections of the city, and the new home districts.
 7. Completion of the program to unify all Torrance mail under the Torrance postoffice.
 8. Completion of the pipe line systems of the new Torrance Municipal Water Districts.
 9. Creation of necessary sewer districts to care for expanded population.
- May the people of Torrance raise their sights to view the great opportunities awaiting them; may the City Hall be staffed with "Men of Vision" who can "do something about it" when the opportunity presents itself.
- May the year 1948 exceed the year 1947 in community progress.—F. S. S.

HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH' TO BE SUNG BY ORATORIO SOCIETY SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Torrance High School auditorium will be the setting for Handel's "Messiah," one of the most popular of musical works under the direction of Leonard Bushnell, eminent conductor.

The Oratorio, to be given at 4:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon, Jan. 11, will feature such well known soloists as Yniv English, soprano, singing "I Know My Redeemer Liveth"; Nadine Nickol, contralto, "He Shall Feed His Flock"; Phyllis McVicar, contralto, "He was Despised"; John Hertert, bass baritone, "But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming" and others, supported by a chorus of 50 voices. Roger Bushnell and Vera Brumbelow will be the accompanists.

The group is being sponsored by the Torrance Ministerial Association with proceeds of a silver offering to be divided between the sponsoring group and the chorus. Everyone is urged to attend.

First City Retirement

John Stabler Tolson, 80, of 2104 Andree avenue, former Torrance City employee whose retirement became effective Jan. 1, is the first City employee to receive a pension under the California State Retirement System. It was announced recently by Albert H. Bartlett, City Clerk. Tolson, father of William H. Tolson, former mayor and at present a member of the council, started his employment with the city in 1934 and has worked in the street, custodial and park departments.

ATOMIC BLASTS EXPLAINED BY ADMIRAL HIGBEE

Horrors of the atomic bomb were described to the Torrance Lions Club Tuesday by Admiral F. O. Higbee, former Coast Guard commandant in the local port. With the assistance of Chief Petty Officer Ralph A. Mistrota, of the Terminal Island motion picture exchange, he showed pictures of the Bikini "Operations Crossroads." James G. Caldwell, director of the Torrance Area Veterans Center, was program chairman.

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FROM A RECENT ADVERTISEMENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

Steel Prices Are Still Low

GOVERNMENT figures show that average wholesale prices of all commodities today are about 110 percent above 1939. By comparison, these figures show that the current price of steel at the mills is only about 47 percent higher, on the average, than it was in 1939.

If steel prices had gone up as much as other commodity prices, the pound of steel which today sells at the mill for just over 3¢ would be selling for nearly 5¢.

American Iron and Steel Institute
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